

REMARKS

In response to the first Restriction Requirement dated September 11, 2006, Applicants had elected without traverse Group VIII and the species of polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 5. The Patent Office subsequently issued a second Restriction/Election requirement on January 26, 2007.

In response to the second Restriction Requirement, dated January 26, 2007, Applicants hereby elect without traverse Group VIIA (claims 3 and 5 drawn to a method for diagnosing human congenital syndrome). Applicants also elect the species of the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 5 which encodes the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 6 (i.e., SEQ ID NOs: 5 and 6).

Applicants have amended claim 5 to recite the elected subject matter, *i.e.*, to only recite a method of diagnosing human congenital disorders. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 to 9 were previously withdrawn.

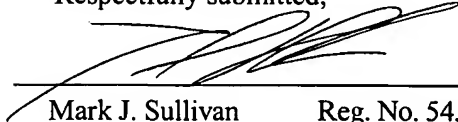
Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part applications directed to withdrawn or canceled subject matter disclosed in the application as originally filed.

CONCLUSIONS

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner disagree, Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic or in-person interview with the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues and to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any necessary fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,



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